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WILLIAM F. MOULTON.

REV. WILLIAM FIDDIAN MOULTON, A.M., D.D., whose recent death at Cambridge, England, is a loss to New Testament



WILLIAM F. MOULTON

scholarship felt throughout the English-speaking world, was a noble representative of a most noble type of Christian scholarship — that which combines thoroughness of scientific research with a most human interest in men and unselfish devotion to their service. He was born in 1835 at Leek in Staffordshire. His grandfather, and his father, were ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist church, as were also an uncle and a younger brother. He himself, after receiving his A.B. degree at the age of eighteen and his A.M. at the age of twenty-one, both from the London

University — non-conformists were not then admitted to Cambridge or Oxford — and both accompanied by special honors in mathematics, devoted himself to theological studies, here also winning prizes from the London University, in Hebrew, Greek, and biblical criticism. He entered upon the work of teaching in 1854, first as master at Queen's College, Taunton; in 1858 he became classical tutor in the Wesleyan Theological College, Richmond, and in 1874 was made head master of the Leys School at Cambridge, then just founded. This position he held till his death. In 1874 the University of Edinburgh gave him the degree of D.D., and in 1877 the University of Cambridge conferred on him the honorary degree of M.A.

In Cambridge doubtless, and quite possibly among Wesleyans throughout England, he was best known as the head of Leys School, and so important is the work of the master of such a school, and so admirably was Dr. Moulton adapted to this posi-

tion, that his work here, wrought into the lives of his pupils, may very well have been made the most important and most permanent that he accomplished. But on this side the water Dr. Moulton was chiefly known by his published books. It was while he was classical tutor at Richmond, in 1870, that he published his translation of Winer's *Grammar of New Testament Greek*, which, however, was so enriched by his own notes as to be practically a new work. It is by these notes quite as much as by the original material that the book has held its place in the esteem of scholars. In the same year he was elected a member of the New Testament Revision Company, being but thirty-five years old, and its youngest member. In 1878 he published a history of the Bible, and in 1879 joined with Dr. Milligan in issuing a commentary on the gospel of John, published first in the Popular Commentary, and then in the International Revision Commentary edited by Dr. Schaff. He also wrote on the epistle to the Hebrews in Bishop Ellicott's Commentary for Schools. Dr. Moulton shared with Bishop Westcott and Dr. Hort the task of preparing for the recently issued revised version of the apocrypha the translation of 2 Maccabees and the book of Wisdom. The weekly sessions of the committee held in Dr. Moulton's study continued the delightful associations already begun in the larger committee. Less than a year ago, the Moulton and Geden concordance of the New Testament, to the production of which he had contributed counsel and some still more practical assistance, appeared from the press. There is even now on the press an edition of the Revised New Testament, with marginal references, in the preparation of which Dr. Moulton had been engaged for many years. Other tasks which he had planned, or which others had thrust upon him, must be left unaccomplished, or to be taken up by other hands. Notable among these was the preparation of a New Testament grammar, which was to be, not an edition of Winer, but an independent work. For the prosecution of this important and needed work, for which Dr. Moulton was so admirably prepared, he had associated with himself his son, Rev. James H. Moulton, and Rev. Dr. H. A. A. Kennedy. The Cambridge Uni-

versity Press has it arranged that they will go forward with the enterprise, though deprived by death of the leadership of the older scholar.

Those who knew Dr. Moulton personally bear testimony to the beauty and strength of his Christian character. As a preacher he is said to have been mainly expository, "combining depth and simplicity with an absence of art, carried even to a fault." The success of his pupils in Leys School attests the excellence of his work as a teacher and master. We who have used and are using his books can testify to his scholarship, and record our gratitude for his faithful and thorough work. E. D. B.